

REMARKS

Claims 27-43 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-26 have been cancelled.

Summary of Examiner Interview

Initially, Applicants' representative thanks Examiner Volper for his time during the July 7, 2004, telephonic interview. Applicants' representative discussed the outstanding Office Action and the cited reference with Examiner Volper. Examiner Volper agreed that Kubo does not disclose cell component replacement, but rather cell duplication. Applicant's representatives proposed independent claims which clarify the cell component replacement. Examiner Volper has agreed that the proposed independent claims, consistent with the new independent claims submitted in this Amendment, distinguish over Kubo.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims.

CONCLUSION

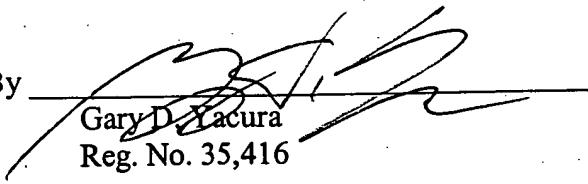
In the event that any matters remain at issue in the application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 668-8000 in the Northern Virginia area, for the purpose of a telephonic interview.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.

By


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